

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** With the exception of a few extremely isolated areas along the south-eastern border, precipitation has been scarce across much of the State since the beginning of November, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. During the most recent 60-day period, a very large portion of the entire State has accumulated less than 25 percent of the normal precipitation level. According to the Drought Monitor released on December 28, nearly 63 percent of New Mexico was classified as abnormally dry, and just over 30 percent was classified as suffering from moderate drought. Overall, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 21 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 44 percent on November 26, and 37 percent last year. There was no measurable moisture recorded at 24 of the 45 reporting weather stations during the month. Of the stations that accumulated precipitation during the month, no station reported more than 0.76 inch. Average temperatures ranged from -3 degrees below to 8 degrees above normal. While average temperatures were warmer than normal, comments from some counties indicated that producers were having to haul water to their livestock due to frozen pipes and ponds resulting from cold overnight lows. Daytime highs varied from 53 degrees at Angel Fire to 79 degrees at Acme, Carlsbad, Roswell, and Tucumcari. Overnight lows ranged from -4 degrees at Ocate to 21 degrees at Carlsbad. Statewide, winter wheat condition has deteriorated significantly since the end of November, with 27 percent reported as good to excellent, compared with 64 percent on November 26, and 8 percent last year. Comments from Curry County noted that cattle on some wheat fields will be moved to dryland grass fields soon. Supplemental feeding was increasing in areas where native feedstuffs were already deteriorating. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 21 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus on November 26. Stock water supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 23 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 5 percent very short, 16 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus on November 26.

Monthly reports will be released for January on Monday, January 29, 2018; for February on Monday, February 26, 2018; and for March on Monday, March 26, 2018.

## CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Chile				
Red harvested .....	100	89	99	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	100	80	100	NA
Cotton				
Harvested .....	96	73	92	NA
Peanuts				
Harvested .....	100	85	NA	NA
Pecans				
Harvested .....	89	30	52	NA
Sorghum				
Harvested .....	99	75	99	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	73	40	81	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	63	46	71	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	55	13	14	NA
Short.....	24	43	49	NA
Adequate.....	19	43	34	NA
Surplus.....	2	1	3	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	41	13	13	NA
Short.....	40	39	40	NA
Adequate.....	17	48	47	NA
Surplus.....	2	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Fair.....	2	4	3	NA
Good.....	43	73	82	NA
Excellent.....	55	23	15	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	16	1	8	NA
Poor.....	40	5	38	NA
Fair.....	17	30	46	NA
Good.....	26	53	5	NA
Excellent.....	1	11	3	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	NA
Poor.....	2	4	4	NA
Fair.....	24	19	34	NA
Good.....	69	63	55	NA
Excellent.....	3	12	5	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	25	6	11	NA
Poor.....	18	12	17	NA
Fair.....	11	20	16	NA
Good.....	46	54	56	NA
Excellent.....	--	8	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

New Mexico's weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/New\\_Mexico/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2017/NM\\_Weather\\_12312017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_12312017.pdf)